(b) if so, what steps, if any, are being taken to sanction and create new spindlage capacity in Madhya Pradesh;

(c) whether there are proposals to set up any new cotton spinning mills in the cooperative sector in Madhya Pradesh in the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI RAFIQUE ALAM): (a) and (b) The production of cotton is concentrated in some States only while its consumption is determined by the location of Spinning mills which are spread over various States. It is not necessary that cotton produced in a particular State should be consumed in the same State. Further, the licensing of new spinning mills is determined by various factors like industrial backwardness, etc. Availability of cotton is only one of the factors taken into consideration.

(c) The Madhya Pradesh Government has not so far during the Seventh Five Year Plan period recommended any proposal for the establishment of new cooperative spinning mills.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

Inter-State Councils

850. SHRI M. S. GURUPADASWAMY: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to constitute Inter-State Councils;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons for the delay in constituting such Councils?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (c) The under-mentioned three Inter-State Councils have been set up for specific purposes under the provision of article 263;

(i) Central Council of Health set up on 9th August, 1951.

(ii) Central Council of Local Self Government set up on 16th September, 1954.

(iii) Council on Sales Tax and State Excise Duty was set up on 1st February, 1968 for each of the four Zones.

In addition, five Zonal Councils for the Eastern, Western, Northern; Southern and Central Zones constituted under the States Reorganisation Act, 1956 are also functioning, besides the North Eastern Council for the States of the North-Eastern Region constituted under the North Eastern Council Act, 1971. These Councils are also providing forums for consultation among the States and between the Centre and the States.

Purification of water of Ganga River

851. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) how far the water of the river Ganga has been purified so far;

(b) whether it has become worth for drinking; and

(c) what amount has been spent so far by Government on the 'Ganga Action Plan'?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI Z. R. ANSARI): (a) Under the Ganga Action Plan, a total of 262 schemes have been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 256.28 crores for the three States of U.P., Bihar and West Bengal. So far 45 schemes at a cost of about Rs. 13.00